

112. STATE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO THE SOVIET UNION: Joint Communiqué Issued at Moscow by the Chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet (Brezhnev) and the President of the Republic of Cuba (Dorticos Torrado), September 20, 1961 (Excerpts)²¹

At the invitation of L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, Dr. Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, President of the Republic of Cuba, was in the Soviet Union on a state visit from Sept. 11 to Sept. 21, 1961.

²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 407.

²² *Ibid.*, p. 408.

²³ Department of State press release No. 562; the Department of State *Bulletin*, Sept. 4, 1961, p. 407.

²⁴ S. 2268, 87th Cong.; 75 Stat. 466. See *Crimes Aboard Aircraft in Air Commerce: Hearing Before the Aviation Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, 87th Congress, 1st Session, August 4, 1961*; S. Rept. 894, 87th Cong., Aug. 9, 1961; *Crimes on Board Aircraft: Hearings Before a Subcommittee of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, 87th Congress, 1st Session, on H.R. 8370 and Other Bills, August 7 and 8, 1961*; and H. Rept. 958, 87th Cong., Aug. 16, 1961.

²⁵ These excerpts are taken from the text printed in *The Current Digest of the Soviet Press*, vol. XIII, No. 38, Oct. 18, 1961, pp. 21-22.

O. Dorticos, President of the Republic of Cuba, was accompanied by: Blas Roca, one of the leaders of the United Revolutionary Organizations of Cuba; Dr. Raul Roa Garcia, Minister of Foreign Relations; Faure Chomon Mediavillia, Cuban Ambassador to the Soviet Union; Raul Roa Couri, Cuban Ambassador to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; Jose Antonio Portuondo, Cuban Ambassador to Mexico; and Jaime Barrios Mesa, adviser on economic affairs.

O. Dorticos, President of the Republic of Cuba, had meetings and talks with N. S. Khrushchev, Chairman of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers, and L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet. The talks were attended on the Soviet side by A. N. Kosygin, First Vice-Chairman of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers; V. N. Novikov, Vice-Chairman of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers and Chairman of the U.S.S.R. State Planning Committee; A. A. Gromyko, U.S.S.R. Minister of Foreign Affairs; N. S. Patolichev, U.S.S.R. Minister of Foreign Trade; and other officials.

The Cuban side expressed once again the appreciation of the Cuban people for the manifestation of solidarity and for the help and cooperation rendered to Cuba by the Soviet Union and the whole socialist camp without any demands or conditions whatever of a political or economic nature that would affect, directly or indirectly, its independence and sovereignty, its unqualified right to dispose of its own natural resources or its right to self-determination.

Cuba has achieved its revolution independently and has freely chosen the path of socialist development, which is best suited to ensure its rapid and effective development and the highest material and spiritual living standards for its people.

The peoples of the Soviet Union express their firm conviction that the heroic Cuban people, guided by their leader Fidel Castro, will achieve new successes on the path of strengthening the independent Republic of Cuba—"the free territory of America".

In the course of the talks the two sides noted with satisfaction the successful fulfilment of the agreements on trade and on economic, technical and cultural cooperation, which has led to a further strengthening of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba. Soviet-Cuban trade is developing successfully in 1961.

The two sides discussed and proposed measures for further expanding economic cooperation and Soviet-Cuban trade.

An accord was reached on conducting negotiations toward the signing of a long-term trade agreement providing for a further increase in deliveries of raw sugar from Cuba to the U.S.S.R.

The Soviet government declared its readiness to continue to render comprehensive assistance in the development of the national economy of the Republic of Cuba and of the basic branches of its industry and agriculture and to exchange with Cuba achievements in science, technology and culture.

An accord has been reached on substantially increasing the capacity of the oil refinery and the metallurgical plant that are being designed by Soviet organizations.

The two sides agreed on the advisability of concluding an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba.